

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Erik Swanson on 7/2/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claims 13 and 22.

In claim 12 please amend to read the following:

12a --A method for treating a crystal having nonlinear optical properties and including foreign atoms which bring about specific absorption of incoming light, the method comprising: converting the foreign atoms in the crystal to a lower valency state by an oxidation process, thereby liberating electrons; removing, during the oxidation process, the liberated electrons from the crystal using an external current source so as to reduce an optical absorption value of the